

Senate File 138 - Introduced

SENATE FILE _____
BY COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 1070)

Passed Senate, Date _____ Passed House, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to jury service compensation, reimbursement, and
2 confidentiality and exempting certain governmental employees
3 from jury service compensation.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

5 TLSB 1383SV 82

6 jm/je/5

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1 1 Section 1. Section 607A.8, Code 2007, is amended by
1 2 striking the section and inserting in lieu thereof the
1 3 following:

1 4 607A.8 FEES AND EXPENSES FOR JURORS.

1 5 1. A grand juror and a petit juror in all courts shall
1 6 receive thirty dollars as compensation for each day's service
1 7 or attendance, including attendance required for the purpose
1 8 of being considered for service. The supreme court may adopt
1 9 rules that allow additional compensation for jurors whose
1 10 attendance and service exceeds seven days.

1 11 2. A grand juror and a petit juror in all courts shall
1 12 receive reimbursement for mileage expenses at the rate
1 13 specified in section 602.1509 for each mile traveled each day
1 14 in excess of thirty miles to and from the residence of the
1 15 juror to the place of service or attendance, and shall receive
1 16 reimbursement for actual expenses of parking, as determined by
1 17 the clerk of the district court. A juror who is a person with
1 18 a disability may receive reimbursement for the costs of
1 19 alternate transportation from the residence of the juror to
1 20 the place of service or attendance. A juror shall not receive
1 21 reimbursement for mileage expenses or actual expenses of
1 22 parking when the juror travels in a vehicle for which another
1 23 juror is receiving reimbursement for mileage and parking
1 24 expenses.

1 25 3. Unless otherwise specified in a collective bargaining
1 26 agreement, an employee of a public employer as defined in
1 27 section 20.3 shall be provided with a paid leave of absence
1 28 for any time the employee is absent from work due to jury
1 29 service or attendance, including attendance required for the
1 30 purpose of being considered for service. An employee of a
1 31 public employer as defined in section 20.3 shall not receive
1 32 compensation under subsection 1.

1 33 4. A grand juror or a petit juror in all courts may waive
1 34 the right of the juror to receive compensation under
1 35 subsection 1 or reimbursement under subsection 2.

2 1 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 607A.47 JUROR QUESTIONNAIRE.

2 2 The court may, on its own motion, or upon the motion of a
2 3 party to the case or upon the motion of a juror, order the
2 4 sealing or partial sealing of a completed juror questionnaire,
2 5 if the court finds that it is necessary to protect the safety
2 6 or privacy of a juror or a family member of a juror.

2 7 EXPLANATION

2 8 This bill relates to jury service including compensation,
2 9 reimbursement, and confidentiality.

2 10 The bill raises juror compensation from \$10 to \$30 for each
2 11 day of service or attendance, including attendance required
2 12 for the purpose of being considered for service. Under the
2 13 bill, unless otherwise specified in a collective bargaining
2 14 agreement, an employee of a public employer as defined in Code
2 15 section 20.3, shall be provided paid leave of absence in lieu
2 16 of compensation for jury service.

2 17 The bill also provides that all jurors are entitled to

2 18 reimbursement, pursuant to Code section 602.1509, for each
2 19 mile traveled each day in excess of 30 miles to and from the
2 20 residence of the juror to the place of service or attendance.
2 21 Current law provides that a juror is entitled to
2 22 reimbursement, regardless of distance, for each mile traveled
2 23 to and from the residence of the juror to the place of service
2 24 or attendance.
2 25 The bill permits a juror to waive the right of the juror to
2 26 receive compensation or reimbursement for service or
2 27 attendance.
2 28 The bill also provides that the court may seal or partially
2 29 seal a jury questionnaire if the court finds it necessary to
2 30 protect the safety or privacy of a juror or a family member of
2 31 a juror.
2 32 LSB 1383SV 82
2 33 jm:rj/je/5